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effrey R. Swearingen	2145	
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	o/o16,777 cxaminer effrey R. Swearingen s on the cover sheet with the R REMAINS) CLOSED in this other appropriate communication. This application is subjected MPEP 1308. 7. er 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f) een received in Application Numents have been received in this communication to file a received in Application. ed. Note the attached EXAMIT reason(s) why the oath or decive submitted. es submitted. es submitted. and BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL OF THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL OF STATE OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL OF STATE OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL OF BIOLOGICAL O	oncompanies of the cover sheet with the correspondence addressers. REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included other appropriate communication will be mailed in due court. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at an MPEP 1308. 7

Art Unit: 2145

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

- 1. Claims 1-19 are allowed.
- 2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

Applicant failed to provide an explicit definition of a routing processor. Applicant presented intrinsic evidence within the specification that a routing processor was limited to hardware embodiments. Specification, page 1, lines 11-18. Specification, page 1, lines 27-29. Specification, page 2, lines 12-16. Intrinsic evidence further existed within the claims supporting this analysis. Claims 1, 9, 14: A set of routing processors disposed on a single card. Claims 4, 11, 19: Each routing processor includes memory. Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art would interpret Applicant's claims as being limited to hardware embodiments of routing processors.

Applicant has limited the invention to a single hardware card containing two routing processors. Each routing processor is limited exclusively to a single routing protocol. One of ordinary skill in the art interprets a routing processors exclusively associated with a routing protocol as a routing processor that can only process the specific routing protocol and cannot be altered to accommodate another routing protocol. Although Applicant's specification supports the use of five separate routing processors for five distinct routing protocols (Figure 4), Applicant has limited the invention to two routing processors on a single hardware card. Applicant also claimed an additional routing table manager on a third processor, located upon said single hardware card.

The exclusive, non-interchangeable use of a network protocol on a network routing processor, and the placement of exactly two said separate hardware network routing processors on a single hardware card, is not taught in the prior art. The addition of a separate hardware routing table manager processors located upon said hardware card with the additional two separate hardware routing processors is also distinguished over the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by Applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Art Unit: 2145

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffrey R. Swearingen whose telephone number is (571) 272-3921. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason Cardone can be reached on 571-272-3933. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Jason Cardone

Supervisory Patent Examiner

Art Unit 2145